RESOLUTION 10-19 IDLE-FREE RESOLUTION FOR MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN THE TOWN OF JACKSON, WY

WHEREAS, Willie Neal, a passionate believer in environmental issues who continually challenged people to take responsibility for the impacts of their actions and embodied the concept that Change Begins with an Individual, actively encouraged the Town of Jackson and local businesses to adopt idle-reduction strategies and policies through his Idle-Free Jackson Initiative; and

WHEREAS, idling a vehicle for more than ten seconds consumes more fuel than restarting that vehicle, resulting in excessive emissions, wasted fuel, and possible damage to the vehicle's engine; and

WHEREAS, engine idling in cold temperatures causes acid build-up in engine oil causing added wear and tear to the engine; and

WHEREAS, petroleum fuels are non-renewable and should be used wisely and not wasted; and

WHEREAS, idling is a source of unnecessary roadside air pollution, increasing the risk of health problems for all residents and visitors, including the driver of the idling vehicle; and

WHEREAS, vehicle exhaust causes health problems such as asthma and lung disease, and heart disease; and

WHEREAS, children and elderly persons are the most susceptible to the negative effects of air pollution from motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, W.S. § 31-5-509 recognizes the health and safety concerns of idling vehicles; and

WHEREAS, fossil fuel-based vehicle engines emit a range of gases and particulate matter, including carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide and other volatile organic compounds, which are directly linked to the accumulation of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments throughout the United States are adopting emission reduction targets and programs such as 10x10 Jackson Hole and that this leadership is bipartisan; and

WHEREAS Jackson, like many cities throughout the nation, is reducing polluting emissions through conservation and efficiency measures, which provide economic, health, and quality of life benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jackson has voluntarily implemented an idle-free program for Town of Jackson departments and employees, and this program has resulted in measurable reductions in fuel use and expenditures of public funds; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to take a proactive stance on unnecessary engine idling to ensure the livability and viability of the Town of Jackson for its residents, visitors, and guests; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council encourages the reduction of idling on Town Streets and in public locations, such as schools, parking lots, and business centers; and

WHEREAS, it is the Town's goal to reduce idling voluntarily, and voluntary measures undertaken by each citizen and visitor can have a lasting impact in the overall reduction of engine idling; and

WHEREAS, the Yellowstone-Teton Clean Energy Coalition will, on its own, and in partnership with the Town and other like-minded organizations, continue to educate residents and guests of the detrimental effects of vehicle idling; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jackson, Wyoming, in regular session duly assembled, that the Town of Jackson is committed to the continued education of Jackson residents, visitors, and guests regarding the harmful effects of